REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

Claims 62-77 and 82 are presently active. Claims 1-61 were previously canceled. Claims 78, 79, 80, 81, and 83 have been presently canceled without prejudice.

In the Office Action, Claim 78 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Fukuyama (U.S. Pat. No. 6,470,164). Claim 83 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Kurokawa et al (U.S. Pat. No. 5,873,016). Claims 80-81 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fukuyama in view of Endo et al (US2002/0009316). Claims 62-77 and 82 are allowed.

Firstly, Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 62-77 and 82. In order to expedite prosecution of this case to allowance, Claims 78, 79, 80, 81, and 83 been canceled without prejudice, leaving only allowed Claims 62-77 and 82 presently active.

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Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussions, the outstanding grounds for rejection are believed to have been overcome. The application as amended herewith is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND, MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

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